

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 ABF-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 OIC-04 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /147 W
----- 083315

R 281315Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9912

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION UN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 10302

KUWAIT ALSO PASS DOHA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF PFOR UNRWA XF

SUBJECT: UNRWA ADCOM MEETING

REF: STATE 186257

1. UNRWA ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING AUG 27 WENT SMOOTHLY,
BUT LITTLE REAL PROGRESS WAS MADE IN CONVINCING ARAB HOST
GOVTS OF NEED FOR GREATLY INCREASED CONTRIBTUIONS TO
UNRWA FROM WEALTHY ARAB STATES. ALTHOUGH EUROPEAN AND
JAPANESE REPS JOINED US REP IN EXPRESSING THEMSELVES
QUITE BLUNTLY ON THIS SUBJECT (WITH FRENCH AND BRITISH
CATEGORICALLY RULING OUT ANY POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED
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GOF AND HMG CONTRIBUTIONS IN 1975), THEY WERE UNWILLING

PRESS FOR EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO IT IN ADCOM CHAIRMAN'S LETTER THAT TRADITIONALLY ACCOMPANIES COMGEN'S ANNUAL REPORT TO UNGA. EGYPTIAN AND LEBANESE REPS PRIVATELY EXPRESSED AWARENESS OF AND SOME SYMPATHY FOR OUR ATTITUDE, BUT THEY WERE UNWILLING STAND UP AND BE COUNTED ON IT IN FORMAL DISCUSSION. SYRIAN REP WARNED EMBOFF THAT PRESSING THIS ISSUE FURTHER IN ADCOM WOULD CAUSE "POLITICAL PROBLEMS", AND JORDANIAN DEL (CONSISTING, AS USUAL, OF TWO LOW-LEVEL PALESTINIAN EMPLOYEES FROM GOJ MINISTRY OF RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT) WAS TOTALLY UNHELPFUL.

2. RESULT WAS LETTER FROM ADCOM CHAIRMAN WHICH LIMITED ITSELF TO HOPE THAT UPCOMING UNGA WOULD SUPPORT FUTURE FUND-RAISING EFFORTS BY UNSYG BASED ON EARLIER ADCOM DECISION THAT "FINANCING OF UNRWA IS RESPONSIBILITY OF WHOLE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY" (PARA 15 OF COMGEN'S ANNUAL REPORT). (COMMENT: UNRWA COMGEN INTENDS THAT UNSYG'S EFFORTS WILL FOCUS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO EXTRACT GREATER CONTRIBUTIONS FROM WEALTHY ARAB STATES. HE IS ALREADY CONCERTING WITH UN HEADQUARTERS AND LAYING ADVANCE GROUNDWORK WITH VARIOUS ARAB GOVTS TO ENSURE THAT STRONGEST POSSIBLE PITCH IS MADE TO ARAB FONMINS WHEN THEY ASSEMBLE AT NEW YORK IN SEPTEMBER. HOWEVER, HE IS NOT OPTIMISTIC (NOR ARE WE) THAT THIS EFFORT WILL PRODUCE ANY GREATER RESULTS THAN THOSE MADE IN PAST, GIVEN (A) WELL-KNOWN ATTITUDES OF KING FEISAL AND OTHER ARAB LEADERS ON SUBJECT OF UNRWA FINANCING AND (B) CONTINUING ARAB PROPENSITY--CLEARLY EVIDENT AT AUG 27 ADCOM MEETING-

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TO EXPECT THAT USG AND OTHER TRADITIONAL DONORS WILL AGAIN BAIL OUT AGENCY AT LAST MINUTE.)
GODLEY

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